

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 065147

43

ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-09

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 CEA-01

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 OPIC-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04

SIL-01 OMB-01 /120 R

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APPROVED BY IO:WBUFFUM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FR, UNGA, EGEN

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION

REF: 062899

1. IO ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM MET WITH FRENCH EMBASSY MINISTER DE LA GORCE MARCH 20. BUFFUM SAID THAT IN VIEW OF OUR EXPERIENCE IN THE 6TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA, WE WERE BEGINNING OUR PREPARATIONS AND CONSULTATIONS FOR THE UP-COMING 7TH SPECIAL SESSION MUCH EARLIER. WE WERE CONDUCTING PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND THE EC-9 ITSELF WITH THE HOPE OF DEVELOPING COMMON POSITIONS WHERE POSSIBLE. WE ALL HAD HAD AN UNHAPPY EXPERIENCE WITH THE NEW INTER-
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PAGE 02 STATE 065147

NATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER AND THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS

AND DUTIES.

2. BUFFUM ADDED THAT INDICATIONS FROM DAKAR, ALGIERS AND NAIROBI WERE THAT WE MIGHT BE HEADED FOR ANOTHER CONFRONTATION WITH THE LDC'S, WHICH WE WANTED TO AVOID. WE WISHED TO CONVEY TO THE LDC'S THAT WE WERE APPROACHING THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION IN A CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT WITH EMPHASIS ON CONSENSUS AND DIALOGUE. PRE-COOKED POSITIONS PURSUED BY BLOC MAJORITY VOTE WITHOUT NEGOTIATION MADE DIALOGUE HOLLOW. WE WERE PLANNING ON BEGINNING OUR PROGRAM OF CONSULTATIONS WITH THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, BOTH BILATERALLY AND MULTILATERALLY, AND WE WOULD LATER APPROACH THE LDC'S.

3. BUFFUM SOLICITED FRENCH VIEWS ON HOW AND WHERE CONSULTATIONS COULD MOST USEFULLY TAKE PLACE. HE WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THEIR VIEWS ON WHEN WE SHOULD APPROACH THE LDC'S AND WHICH INDIVIDUALS AND COUNTRIES IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL TO TALK WITH. THE USG HAD BEGUN ITS INTERNAL CONSULTATIONS IN ORDER TO PULL TOGETHER OUR POSITIONS ON THE ISSUES. WE WERE TAKING A FRESH APPROACH TO OUR OVER-ALL PHILOSOPHY AND ALL CURRENT POSITIONS IN OUR ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE LDC'S. THE RESULT MIGHT NOT BE NEW AND STIMULATING BUT WE WERE TRYING TO AVOID AUTOMATICALLY REPEATING PREVIOUS POSITIONS ON ECONOMIC ISSUES.

4. BUFFUM SAID THAT WE WERE PRESENTLY CONCERNED WITH HOW TO REFER TO THE CERDS IN UN DOCUMENTS IN A MANNER WHICH WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO US. THE MEXICANS WERE PUSHING IT IN ALL FORUMS AND WE WERE CONCERNED THAT OUR FIRM OPPOSITION TO ANY LEGAL CONCEPT WHICH IMPLIED TOTAL DISREGARD FOR INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS MIGHT BE ERODED.

5. DE LA GORCE SAID THAT THE US AND FRENCH POSITIONS HAD MUCH IN COMMON AND THEY SHARED OUR CONCERNS. THE GOF WAS ALSO DISPLEASED WITH THE OUTCOME OF THE 6TH SESSION AND HOPED TO RETURN TO THE EARLIER SPIRIT OF CONSENSUS IN THE UN. A HOPEFUL ELEMENT WAS THAT BECAUSE SOME LDC'S WERE BECOMING DC'S AND THE OPEC COUNTRIES WERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 065147

ACCUMULATING WEALTH THERE MIGHT BE A GRADUAL CHANGE IN THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARD EXPROPRIATION. DE LA GORCE SAID THE US INITIATIVE WOULD BE REPORTED TO PARIS AND HE WOULD RELAY FRENCH VIEWS.

6. DE LA GORCE REPORTED THAT THE FRENCH PLANNED TO ESTABLISH AN INTER-DEPARTMENTAL GROUP UNDER THE UN DIVISION OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE IN MAY TO BEGIN WORK ON

THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. THERE WAS A TIMETABLE PROBLEM, HOWEVER, IN THAT THE ISSUES TO BE RAISED IN THE PRODUCER/ CONSUMER ENERGY CONFERENCES, SUCH AS WHETHER OR NOT RAW MATERIALS WOULD BE DISCUSSED AS WELL AS ENERGY, WERE DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. BUFFUM AGREED THAT THE RESULTS OF THE ENERGY MEETINGS WOULD HAVE A DIRECT IMPACT ON THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION.

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